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FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7838
INFO RUEHZG/NATO EU COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUCNDMI/HUMANITARIAN DEMINING COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 1277
RUEHNO/USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY 0903
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 0416
RUEKJCS/Joint STAFF WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEKJCS/OSD WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEHUNV/USMISSION UNVIE VIENNA PRIORITY 0031

C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 000647

SIPDIS

STATE FOR PM/WRA - KBAKER

E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/12/2018
TAGS: PARM PREL MOPS NATO GM CA
SUBJECT: CLUSTER MUNITIONS: CANADA CONCERNED ABOUT NATO
INTEROPERABILITY

REF: A. STATE 48214
 1B. STATE 45302
 1C. OTTAWA 372

Classified By: PolMinCouns Scott Bellard, reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

11. (U) This is an action request -- see para 4.

12. (C) In response to ref a and b demarches, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAIT) Oslo Process and CCW Head of Delegation Earl Turcotte observed that there was at best a "50-50 chance" that the Oslo Process (OP) on Cluster Munitions (CM) would produce a final text that Canada could accept. The sticking point, he said, would likely be language in Article 1 (b) and (c) that "effectively undermined" interoperability. Turcotte clarified that "effective" was not the same as "no impact," and added that Canada had not yet given up on workarounds.

13. (C) Turcotte confirmed that Canada shared ref B concerns about German intransigence in the CCW. He noted, however, that Canada was hopeful that the Germans would "come around" when the Chair circulates a draft protocol in advance of the July meeting of the CCW. Canada "strongly supports" the CCW protocol, Turcotte added, and would like to see as much harmony as possible in the documents that emerge from both the Oslo Process and the CCW.

Action Request

14. (C) Canada has moved towards alignment with the U.S. on CM interoperability over the past few months. However, in light of Ref C, Ottawa recommends that PM/WRA organize an expert pull-aside at the May 13 briefing in order to bolster Canadian support for the U.S. position.

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